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ABSTRACT

Statistical methods that can be applied in the sequential analysis of multivariate empirical data are provided. Twenty-three specific formulas for use under varying conditions are discussed. A historical sketch of sequential analysis since World War II and a biblicgraphy are included. (AE)

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MULTIVARIATE SEQUENTIAL ANALYSIS FOR EDUCATION

Given a basic (simple) hypothesis testing situation with null hypothesis, alternative hypothesis, probability of Type 1 error and probability of Type 11 error, the sequential analysis (Wald) method involves the construction of the likelihood ratio at each stage of sampling and comparison of the ratio to boundary values, A and B. If the upper limit is broken with the first sample, the null hypothesis is rejected. If the lower limit is broken, the alternative hypothesis is rejected (or the null hypothesis is accepted). If neither limit is broken, a second sample is selected and the product of the two likelihood ratios is compared to the boundary values, A and B. The procedure is generally continued until one of the two limits is broken. Using natural logarithms, the procedure may be represented as in diagram 1.

Implicit calculations of the upper and lower boundaries involve solution of the simultaneous equations found in 2. Some computers can handle this problem but more expedient methods are usually taken. Common estimates for A and B are found in section 3. Use of these estimates introduce new error probabilities into the hypothesis testing situation -- it is somewhat comforting to know that the sum of the new error probabilities is less than or equal to the sum of the desired error probabilities.

The sequential analysis method for testing a hypothesis necessarily makes the sample size, say N, a random variable -- N is defined as the size of the sample when a boundary is first broken. Calculation of the expected value of N from first conditions involves the summation of the series found in 4. Again, direct calculations are difficult. Approximations for this mean value exist if the mean value of the likelihood ratio is not unity. For the particular case in which

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population means are being tested, the approximation for the expected value of the random variable N, given the particular population mean value $\underset{\sim}{\mu}$ is given in equation 5. Equation 6 gives this approximation for the special cases, $\underset{\sim}{\mu}_o$ and $\underset{\sim}{\mu}_a$.

The power of the test is needed for equation 5. From first conditions, the power is found by summing the infinite series in equation 7. Often, the power is approximated using a two step procedure. Under mild conditions, there exists a value $h(\underset{\sim}{\mu})$ such that the expected value of the likelihood ratio raised to this power is equal to the constant, 1.0. Equation 8 gives two forms of this statement. If a non-zero value of $h(\underset{\sim}{\mu})$ exists, the power of the sequential test may be estimated by the expression found in 9.

I would now like to summarize the above by means of a common example. Assume the random vector with p elements is distributed normally with known covariance matrix $\underset{\sim}{\Sigma}$. The null hypothesis states the population mean vector is $\underset{\sim}{\mu}_o$. The alternative hypothesis states the population mean vector is $\underset{\sim}{\mu}_a$. The value z for this special case is given in section 10 -- a linear combination of the p variates. For the special case in which p=1, section 11 gives the common expression and the expression more often used in quality control work.

Continuing with the p-dimensional situation, the approximation for expected number of vectors which would have to be sampled before a decision is made if the null hypothesis is assumed to be true is given in equation 12. A similar form exists if the alternative hypothesis is assumed to be true. For other values of the population mean vector, this approximation involves the power of the sequential test. Section 13 gives the details.

Perhaps now is the time for the question, "Why, sequential analysis?" The procedure was developed by Wald during World War II -- its optimality is expressed as follows: the expected sample size under either H_o or H_a is usually a fraction of the fixed sample size test with comparable error probabilities. In the univariate case for means, the fraction is often ½ or less. Empirical work at The Florida

State University for a limited number of cases with dimensionality two or three show empirically that the fraction in these multivariate cases if often close to 1/2. Comparable economy in other multivariate cases appears possible.

All of the above comments have implied that one vector is sampled at each stage of testing procedure. It might be desirable to sample groups of vectors at each stage of the testing procedure. For the above special case, the only correction would be a group size factor in the denominator of each term in the variance-covariance matrix. The expected sample size could be calculated as in equation 14. The author has taken another approach to sequential analysis in the multivariate case. Using random normal vectors, the Chi-Square or F (possible Beta) distributions are used in the likelihood ratio. Sampling is performed with groups of vectors. The advantages of this procedure are:

A. The non-centrality parameter is constant for the F test corresponding to the Chi-Square test. Relationships between the two tests are possible.

B. All approximations given in the first part of this paper apply to this testing procedure.

Certain expected values of random variables are given in section 15, 16, and 17.

The simple hypothesis situation which was introduced before is summarized in section 18. If the first sample of n vectors yields a value z_1 which satisfies the statement of inequality, a second sample of n vectors is taken and the sum $z_1 + z_2$ is compared to the boundaries. The complexity of the calculations assume the experimenter has a programmer available. The expected number of vectors which would have to be sampled if the null hypothesis is assumed to be true is approximated by the expression in section 19.

The comparable test with unknown dispersion matrix is summarized in section 20. One comment -- the sample variance-covariance matrix is calculated for each group of measurements. The expected number of vectors which would have to be sampled if the null hypothesis is assumed to be true is given, approximately, by equation 21.

Section 22 gives the basic approach for multivariate analysis of variance.

Section 23 gives the sequential "T" test in the univariate case.

Closing Comments:

1. It is not necessary to insure that the sample size in each group of vectors is identical if the common approximations are not to be used.

2. No literature exists for optimal group sizes to be used in the sequential analysis.

3. The procedure can be extended to any standard hypothesis testing situation.

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Formulae for

MULTIVARIATE SEQUENTIAL ANALYSIS FOR EDUCATION

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1. $f_o(\underset{\sim}{x})$ is the density function of the random vector $\underset{\sim}{x}$ under the null hypothesis, H_o.

   $f_a(\underset{\sim}{x})$ is the density function of the random vector $\underset{\sim}{x}$ under the alternative hypothesis, H_a.

$$z_i = \ln \frac{f_a(\underset{\sim}{x}_i)}{f_o(\underset{\sim}{x}_i)}$$

(Reject H_a) $\qquad \ln B < \sum_{i=1}^{i=k} z_i < \ln A \qquad$ (Reject H_o)

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2. $\alpha = P(\text{Rejecting } H_o \mid H_o)$; $\qquad \beta = P(\text{Rejecting } H_a \mid H_a)$

$$\alpha = P(z_1 \geq \ln A \mid H_o) + P(\ln B < z_1 < \ln A,\ z_1 + z_2 \geq \ln A \mid H_o) + \cdots$$

$$\beta = P(z_1 \leq \ln B \mid H_a) + P(\ln B < z_1 < \ln A,\ z_1 + z_2 \leq \ln B \mid H_a) + \cdots$$

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3.

$$A \approx \frac{1-\beta}{\alpha} \quad ; \qquad B \approx \frac{\beta}{1-\alpha} \quad .$$

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4. For a specified population mean vector $\underset{\sim}{\mu}$,

$$E_{\underset{\sim}{\mu}}(N) = 1 \cdot \left[1 - P(\ln B < z_1 < \ln A \mid \underset{\sim}{\mu})\right] + 2 \cdot \left[1 - P(\ln B < z_1 < \ln A,\ \ln B < z_1 + z_2 < \ln A \mid \underset{\sim}{\mu})\right] + \cdots$$

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5. Given $\underset{\sim}{\mu}$, $P(\text{Rejecting } H_o \mid \underset{\sim}{\mu}) = 1 - \beta(\underset{\sim}{\mu})$.

$$E_{\underset{\sim}{\mu}}(N) \approx \frac{[1-\beta(\underset{\sim}{\mu})] \cdot \ln A + \beta(\underset{\sim}{\mu}) \cdot \ln B.}{E_{\underset{\sim}{\mu}}(z_i)}$$

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6. For $\underset{\sim}{\mu} = \underset{\sim}{\mu}_o$,

$$E_{\underset{\sim}{\mu}_o}(N) \approx \frac{\alpha \cdot \ln A + (1-\alpha) \ln B}{E_{\underset{\sim}{\mu}_o}(z_i)} \quad .$$

For $\underset{\sim}{\mu} = \underset{\sim}{\mu}_a$, $\quad E_{\underset{\sim}{\mu}_a}(N) \approx \frac{(1-\beta) \ln A + \beta \cdot \ln B}{E_{\underset{\sim}{\mu}_a}(z_i)} \quad .$

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7. $1 - \beta(\underset{\sim}{\mu}) = P(z_1 \geq \ln A | \underset{\sim}{\mu}) + P(\ln B < z_1 < \ln A,\ z_1 + z_2 \geq \ln A | \underset{\sim}{\mu}) + \ldots$

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8. For population mean $\underset{\sim}{\mu}$, $h(\underset{\sim}{\mu})$ must satisfy

$$E_{\underset{\sim}{\mu}}\left(e^{h(\underset{\sim}{\mu}) \cdot z_i}\right) = E_{\underset{\sim}{\mu}}\left[\left(\frac{f_a(\underset{\sim}{x}_i)}{f_o(\underset{\sim}{x}_i)}\right)^{h(\underset{\sim}{\mu})}\right] = 1.$$

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9. For a specified population mean vector $\underset{\sim}{\mu}$ and non-zero $h(\underset{\sim}{\mu})$,

$$1 - \beta(\underset{\sim}{\mu}) \approx \frac{1 - B^{h(\underset{\sim}{\mu})}}{A^{h(\underset{\sim}{\mu})} - B^{h(\underset{\sim}{\mu})}}.$$

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10. $\underset{\sim}{x} \overset{d}{=} N(\underset{\sim}{\mu}, \underset{\sim}{\Sigma})$.

$z_i = \ln f_a(\underset{\sim}{x}_i) - \ln f_o(\underset{\sim}{x}_i) = \underset{\sim}{C}\underset{\sim}{x}_i + \underset{\sim}{D}$,

with $\underset{\sim}{C} = (\underset{\sim}{\mu}_a - \underset{\sim}{\mu}_o)^t \underset{\sim}{\Sigma}^{-1}$ and $\underset{\sim}{D} = \frac{\underset{\sim}{\mu}_o^t \underset{\sim}{\Sigma}^{-1} \underset{\sim}{\mu}_o - \underset{\sim}{\mu}_a^t \underset{\sim}{\Sigma}^{-1} \underset{\sim}{\mu}_a}{2}$.

(Reject H_a) $\qquad \ln B < \sum_{i=1}^{i=k} (\underset{\sim}{C}\underset{\sim}{x}_i + \underset{\sim}{D}) < \ln A \qquad$ (Reject H_o)

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11. $$\ln B < \sum_{i=1}^{i=k} \left[\frac{(\mu_a - \mu_o) \cdot x_i}{\sigma^2} + \frac{\mu_o^2 - \mu_a^2}{2\sigma^2}\right] < \ln A.$$

For $\mu_a > \mu_o$,

$$(\ln B)\left(\frac{\sigma^2}{\mu_a - \mu_o}\right) + k\left(\frac{\mu_a + \mu_o}{2}\right) < \sum_{i=1}^{i=k} x_i < (\ln A)\left(\frac{\sigma^2}{\mu_a - \mu_o}\right) + k\left(\frac{\mu_a + \mu_o}{2}\right).$$

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12. $$E_{\underset{\sim}{\mu}_o}(N) \approx \frac{d \cdot \ln A + (1-d) \ln B}{E_{\underset{\sim}{\mu}_o}(z_i)} = \frac{d \cdot \ln A + (1-d) \ln B}{\underset{\sim}{C}\underset{\sim}{\mu}_o + \underset{\sim}{D}}$$

with $\underset{\sim}{C}$ and $\underset{\sim}{D}$ defined in 10 above.

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13. For $\underset{\sim}{x} \overset{d}{=} N(\underset{\sim}{\mu}, \underset{\sim}{\Sigma})$ and $z_i = \underset{\sim}{C}\underset{\sim}{x}_i + \underset{\sim}{D}$,

$$E_{\underset{\sim}{\mu}}\left(e^{h(\underset{\sim}{\mu}) z_i}\right) = \exp\left(\underset{\sim}{C}\underset{\sim}{\mu} + \underset{\sim}{D} + \frac{h^2(\underset{\sim}{\mu})\, \underset{\sim}{C}\underset{\sim}{\Sigma}\underset{\sim}{C}^t}{2}\right) = 1.$$

Certain values of the population mean vector yield a non-zero value $h(\underset{\sim}{\mu})$.

13. cont.

$$h(\underset{\sim}{\mu}) = \frac{-2(\underset{\sim}{C}\underset{\sim}{\mu} + D)}{\underset{\sim}{C}\,\underset{\sim}{\Sigma}\,\underset{\sim}{C}^t} .$$

For $h(\underset{\sim}{\mu}) \neq 0$,

$$1 - \beta(\underset{\sim}{\mu}) \approx \frac{1 - B^{h(\underset{\sim}{\mu})}}{A^{h(\underset{\sim}{\mu})} - B^{h(\underset{\sim}{\mu})}}$$

$$E_{\underset{\sim}{\mu}}(N) \approx \frac{[1 - \beta(\underset{\sim}{\mu})] \cdot \ln A + \beta(\underset{\sim}{\mu}) \cdot \ln B}{\underset{\sim}{C}\,\underset{\sim}{\mu} + D}$$

with $\underset{\sim}{C}$, D, defined in section 10.

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14. n vectors are sampled at each stage.

$f_a(\bar{\underset{\sim}{x}}_i)$, $f_o(\bar{\underset{\sim}{x}}_i)$ are density functions of the sample mean vector.

$$z_i = \ln f_a(\bar{\underset{\sim}{x}}_i) - \ln f_o(\bar{\underset{\sim}{x}}_i)$$

$$E_{\underset{\sim}{\mu}}[N] \approx n \cdot \left[\frac{[1 - \beta(\underset{\sim}{\mu})] \cdot \ln A + \beta(\underset{\sim}{\mu}) \cdot \ln B}{E_{\underset{\sim}{\mu}}(z_i)}\right].$$

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15. x follows the non-central chi-square distribution with p degrees of freedom and non-centrality parameter δ^2.

$$E[x] = p + \delta^2$$

$$\text{Var}(x) = 2p + 4\delta^2$$

$$E[\ln x] = \ln 2 + e^{-\frac{\delta^2}{2}} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{\left(\frac{\delta^2}{2}\right)^i}{i!} \Psi\left(\frac{p}{2} + i\right)$$

with $\Psi(a) = \frac{\Gamma'(a)}{\Gamma(a)}$, the Digamma (or Psi) function.

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16. y follows the non-central F distribution with m and n degrees of freedom and non-centrality parameter δ^2.

$$E[y] = \frac{n}{n-2}\left(1 - \frac{\delta^2}{m}\right) \qquad n > 2.$$

$$E[\ln y] = \ln\left(\frac{n}{m}\right) - \Psi\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + e^{-\frac{\delta^2}{2}} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{\left(\frac{\delta^2}{2}\right)^i}{i!} \Psi\left(\frac{m}{2} + i\right) .$$

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17. x follows the non-central Beta distribution with a and b degrees of freedom and non-centrality parameter δ^2.

$$E[x] = e^{-\frac{\delta^2}{2}} \cdot a \cdot \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\frac{\delta^2}{2})^i}{i!} \cdot \frac{1}{a+b+i}$$

$$E[\ln x] = \Psi(a) - e^{-\frac{\delta^2}{2}} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\frac{\delta^2}{2})^i}{i!} \cdot \Psi(a+b+i) .$$

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18. n vectors are sampled; $p \geq 2$.

$$z_i = \ln \frac{f(\chi^2_{a:i})}{f(\chi^2_{o:i})} = \left(\frac{p}{2} - 1\right) \cdot \left[\ln \frac{\chi^2_{a:i}}{\chi^2_{o:i}}\right] - \tfrac{1}{2}\left[\chi^2_{a:i} - \chi^2_{o:i}\right]$$

with $\chi^2_{a:i} = n(\bar{x}_i - \mu_a)^t \sum^{-1} (\bar{x}_i - \mu_a)$

$\chi^2_{o:i} = n(\bar{x}_i - \mu_o)^t \sum^{-1} (\bar{x}_i - \mu_o)$.

Inversion of a matrix can be avoided if the following relationship is used:

$$a^t \sum^{-1} a = \frac{|\sum + aa^t|}{|\sum|} - 1 .$$

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19.

$$E_{\mu_o}[N] \approx n^* \left[\frac{\alpha \cdot \ln A + (1-\alpha) \ln B}{E_{\mu_o}[z_i]}\right]$$

$$E_{\mu_o}(z_i) = \left(\frac{p}{2} - 1\right)\left[e^{-\frac{\delta^2}{2}} \cdot \sum \frac{(\frac{\delta^2}{2})^i}{i!} \Psi\left(\frac{p}{2} + i\right) - \Psi\left(\frac{p}{2}\right)\right] - \tfrac{1}{2}\delta^2$$

with $\delta^2 = n(\mu_a - \mu_o)^t \sum^{-1} (\mu_a - \mu_o)$.

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20. n vectors are sampled; $p \geq 2$.

$$z_i = \ln \frac{g(F_{a:i})}{g(F_{o:i})} = \left(\frac{p}{2} - 1\right)\left[\ln \frac{F_{a:i}}{F_{o:i}}\right] + \frac{n}{2} \cdot \left[\ln \frac{\left(1 + \frac{p}{n-p} F_{o:i}\right)}{\left(1 + \frac{p}{n-p} F_{a:i}\right)}\right]$$

$$\text{with } F_{a:i} = \frac{(n-p)}{p(n-1)} \cdot n(\bar{\underset{\sim}{x}}_i - \underset{\sim}{\mu}_a)\, \underset{\sim}{S}_i^{-1}\, (\bar{\underset{\sim}{x}}_i - \underset{\sim}{\mu}_a)$$

$$F_{o:i} = \frac{(n-p)}{p(n-1)} \cdot n(\bar{\underset{\sim}{x}}_i - \underset{\sim}{\mu}_o)\, \underset{\sim}{S}_i^{-1}\, (\bar{\underset{\sim}{x}}_i - \underset{\sim}{\mu}_o).$$

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21.

$$E_{\underset{\sim}{\mu}_o}[N] \approx n \cdot \left[\frac{\alpha \cdot \ln A + (1-\alpha) \ln B}{E_{\underset{\sim}{\mu}_o}[z_i]}\right]$$

$$E_{\underset{\sim}{\mu}_o}(z_i) = \left(\frac{p}{2} - 1\right) \cdot \left[e^{-\frac{\delta^2}{2}} \sum_{\lambda=0}^{\infty} \frac{\left(\frac{\delta^2}{2}\right)^{\lambda}}{\lambda!} \Psi\left(\frac{p}{2} + \lambda\right) - \Psi\left(\frac{p}{2}\right)\right]$$

$$- \frac{n}{2} \cdot \left[e^{-\frac{\delta^2}{2}} \sum \frac{\left(\frac{\delta^2}{2}\right)^{\lambda}}{\lambda!} \Psi\left(\frac{n}{2} + \lambda\right) - \Psi\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)\right]$$

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22. Random samples of n vectors are taken from 3 multivariate normal populations.

$$\underset{\sim}{x}_1 \overset{d}{=} N(\underset{\sim}{\mu}^{(1)}, \underset{\sim}{\Sigma}), \quad \underset{\sim}{x}_2 \overset{d}{=} N(\underset{\sim}{\mu}^{(2)}, \underset{\sim}{\Sigma}) \text{ and } \underset{\sim}{x}_3 \overset{d}{=} N(\underset{\sim}{\mu}^{(3)}, \underset{\sim}{\Sigma}).$$

The hypothesis of equal population mean vectors becomes

$$H_o: \quad \underset{\sim}{C} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \underset{\sim}{\mu}^{(1)} \\ \underset{\sim}{\mu}^{(2)} \\ \underset{\sim}{\mu}^{(3)} \end{bmatrix} = \underset{\sim}{0} \quad ; \quad \underset{(2p)\times(3p)}{\underset{\sim}{C}} \text{ is a contrast matrix.}$$

$$\underset{\sim}{C} = \begin{bmatrix} \underset{\sim}{I} & -\underset{\sim}{I} & \underset{\sim}{0} \\ \underset{\sim}{I} & \underset{\sim}{I} & -2\underset{\sim}{I} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{is a common selection.}$$

22. cont. The alternative hypothesis may be:

$$H_a: \quad \underset{\sim}{C} \begin{bmatrix} \underset{\sim}{\mu}(1) \\ \underset{\sim}{\mu}(2) \\ \underset{\sim}{\mu}(3) \end{bmatrix} = \underset{(zp \times 1)}{\underset{\sim}{a}} = \begin{bmatrix} \underset{\sim}{a}_1 \\ \underset{\sim}{a}_2 \end{bmatrix} .$$

Sequential procedures follow immediately with non-centrality parameter in both the known dispension matrix problem and unknown dispension matrix problem equal to

$$\delta_2 = n \left[\frac{\underset{\sim}{a}_1{}^t \underset{\sim}{\Sigma}^{-1} \underset{\sim}{a}_1}{2} + \frac{\underset{\sim}{a}_2{}^t \underset{\sim}{\Sigma}^{-1} \underset{\sim}{a}_2}{6} \right] .$$

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23. Univariate "t".

n measurements are samples from the normal population.

$H_o: \mu = \mu_o$; $H_a: \mu = \mu_a$.

$$F_{a:i} = n(\bar{x}_i - \mu_a)^t S^{-1} (\bar{x}_i - \mu_a) = n \frac{(\bar{x}_i - \mu_a)^2}{s_i^2}$$

$$F_{o:i} = n \frac{(\bar{x}_i - \mu_o)^2}{s_i^2} .$$

$$z_i = \frac{n}{2} \ln \left[\frac{1 + \frac{1}{n-1} F_{o:i}}{1 + \frac{1}{n-1} F_{a:i}} \right]$$

It can be shown that the average sampling number in this situation is greater than the average sampling number in the corresponding known-variance test.

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Historical Sketch of Sequential Analysis

The initial breakthrough in sequential analysis was made by Wald (1945, 1947). Cox (1952) and Girshick (1946) extended the basic technique to variance tests and exponential family tests. Johnson (1953, 1954) worked extensively with analysis of variance. Papers on multivariate sequential analysis were written by Jackson and Bradley (1961A, 1961B). Most of the more recent literature deals with arbitrary stopping rules---see Myers, Schneiderman and Armitage (1966). Theoretical work with non-central statistics presented in this paper depend heavily upon the Mellin Transform as presented by Epstein (1948).

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